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$$1+s_n^4=u_n^2.....(4),$$

whence $u_n^2 - s_n^4 = 1$, and $u_n = 1$ and $s_n = 0$ are the only solutions. Now s_n cannot be 0 for if such were the case we would have

$$s_n = s_{n-1} = s_{n-2} = s_1 = x = 0$$

which is inconsistent with the definition of x. Hence the impossibility of (4) and therefore of (1) is completely demonstrated.

134. Proposed by F. P. MATZ, Sc. D., Ph. D., Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy in Defiance College, Defiance, O.

Solve neatly and briefly the equations

$$x^3+x^2y+y^3=53...(1), y^3+y^3z+z^3=13...(2), \text{ and } z^3+z^2x+x^3=31...(3).$$

Solution by G. B. M. ZERR, A. M., Ph. D., Professor of Chemistry and Physics in The Temple College, Philadelphia, Pa.

Probably the only brief solution is by inspection, as follows:

$$x^3 + x^2y + y^3 = 53 = 27 + 18 + 8 = 3^3 + 2 \cdot 3^2 + 2^3 \cdot$$

 $y^3 + y^2z + z^3 = 13 = 8 + 4 + 1 = 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1^3 \cdot$
 $z^3 + z^2x + x^3 = 31 = 1 + 3 + 27 = 1^3 + 3 \cdot 1^2 + 3^3 \cdot$
 $\therefore x = 3, y = 2, z = 1.$

135. Proposed by CHARLES C. CROSS, Whaleyville, Va.

Tangents parallel to the three sides are drawn to the in-circle. If p, q, r, be the lengths of the parts of the tangents within the triangle, prove that

$$\frac{p}{a} + \frac{q}{b} + \frac{r}{c} = 1.$$

I. Solution by M. A. GRUBER, A. M., War Department, Washington, D. C.

Let ABC be any triangle with the incircle O. Put AB=c, AC=b, BC=a.

Draw the respective tangents, DK=r, parallel to AB; FG=q, parallel to AC; and HI=p, parallel to BC.

Let AH = x, and BG = y.

The construction of lines and similarity of triangles give the following:

$$HG=DE=r; y:c=q:b, \text{ or } y=cq/b;$$

and $x:c=p:a, \text{ or } x=cp/a.$ But $x+y+r=c.$

$$\therefore \frac{cp}{a} + \frac{cq}{b} + r = c$$
; or $\frac{p}{a} + \frac{q}{b} + \frac{r}{c} = 1$.

Solved in a similar manner by LON C. WALKER and J. SCHEFFER.

